

I understand there is a move afoot to further loosen restrictions on the ownership of multiple media in one community. This may be a boon to the profitability of certain corporations, but it is clearly anti-democratic, anti-competitive, and not in the best interest of the American people. The concentration of media outlets under fewer and fewer corporate entities is a significant threat to our democracy. The Sherman Anti-Trust Act has wisely been employed many times over the last century to ensure competition in industry. Competition is even more critical in the media arena since our political culture requires citizens to evaluate policies and monitor events. Having these policies and events filtered through fewer and fewer voices, virtually guarantees that the "product" the consumer is receiving will be increasingly more biased and inaccurate. Consumers want choice among media sources just as they want choice in peanut butter. I urge you to leave the current restrictions in place. We do not need monopolies in this arena any more than we do in oil, automobiles, computers, or software.

Sincerely,

Charles L. MacCabe
Tucson, AZ